# GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
# RAILWAYS
# LOK SABHA

STARRED QUESTION NO:355
ANSWERED ON:23.12.2015
Consumption of Water by Railways
Kirtikar Shri Gajanan Chandrakant;Shewale Shri Rahul Ramesh

**Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:**

(a) whether the Railways is planning to formulate a policy for using water more efficiently in its premises and if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether the Railways has signed a MoU with the Ministry of Water Resources in this regard and if so, the details thereof and the salient features thereof;
(c) the time by which the work on the project is likely to be started and the extent to which the railways is likely to be able to curtail their fresh water consumption and expenditure thereon;
(d) the number of existing water recycling plants set up in different railway stations along with the measures taken by the Government to set up more water recycling plants in railway stations; and
(e) whether the Railways has also taken up Rain Water Harvesting projects and if so, the details thereof?

## Answer

MINISTER OF RAILWAYS
( SHRI SURESH PRABHAKAR PRABHU )
(a) to (e): A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.
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STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (e) OF STARRED QUESTION NO. 355 BY SHRI GAJANAN KIRTIKAR AND SHRI RAHUL SHEWALE TO BE ANSWERED IN LOK SABHA ON 23.12.2015 REGARDING CONSUMPTION OF WATER BY RAILWAYS

(a) to (e) Water is mainly used at Railway stations, workshops, washing lines and Railway colonies, etc. Railways' endeavor is to have optimum and economical utilization of water.
For optimum and economical utilization of water, all the zonal railways and production units have been advised in December 2014 to conduct water audit of main water consumption centres. Railways have identified 152 main water consumption centres for water audit during the year 2015-16, so far water audit have been completed at 23 locations.
For efficient use of water, Railway is also setting up Water Recycling Plants at such locations where water is scarce and provision of the same is economically justified. So far 21 numbers of water recycling plants have been setup in different Railway stations and works have been sanctioned for setting up of Water Recycling Plants at 24 more stations.
Water tables are falling in most States in India. The tube wells drilled are lowering water tables in most of the parts of the country. This problem gets further compounded in areas where rain fall is poor. To overcome this problem, Railways have taken initiative for installation of Rain Water Harvesting facility (RWH) wherever possible from techno-economic considerations i.e. intensity of rain fall, level of water table, soil type, salinity of ground water etc. Rain Water Harvesting is now mandatory in all new constructions of built assets like service buildings, hospitals, stations buildings (incl. remodeling etc), railway quarters, workshops/sheds etc. Railway has already installed rain water harvesting facilities at 2060 locations and for 130 more locations for installation of rain water harvesting facilities have been approved.
Railway signed a Memorandum of Understanding on 3.12.15 with Ministry of Water Resources, River Development & Ganga Rejuvenation (MoWR, RD & GR) regarding use of non-potable water released after treatment from Sewage/ Effluent Treatment Plants located in Ganga and Yamuna river zones for Railways purposes. Railway shall take such treated non potable water from MoWR, RD & GR for the Railway stations and/or other establishments wherever its requirement exists for non potable use over and above its own resources (including its own recycled water). This project has recently been conceptualized by MoWR RD & GR. MoWR, RD & GR has kept the period of project, 5 years from 2015-16.
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